

TO: District Test Coordinators
Curriculum Directors

FROM: [Cynthia Hollis](#), NAEP Director

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SUBJECT: NAEP Released Items

The National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB) recently released an additional 138 assessment items from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 2005 mathematics and reading assessments, grades 4 and 8. The released items include 32 math and 19 reading items for grade 4, and 56 math and 31 reading items for grade 8.

Following each assessment cycle, NAEP releases about 25 percent of the assessment items to the public via the NAEP Question Tool. The NAEP Question Tool (free for public use) provides easy access to hundreds of released NAEP assessment items from several content areas including mathematics, reading, writing, civics, U.S. History, geography, science and the arts. The tool allows teachers, parents, and students to search for items in a variety of ways and to sort the items by domain, objectives, cognitive ability and difficulty level.

The NAEP Questions Tool is an especially useful tool to Missouri teachers and students since the NAEP assessment frameworks were key resources used in the recently developed Missouri Grade Level expectations (GLEs); and the NAEP assessment item types (which include multiple-choice, short constructed-response and extended constructed-response) are very similar to the MAP item types and are provided at various levels of complexity.

The NAEP Questions Tool is very user-friendly and offers a wealth of information about each item including: 1) a printable version of the question; 2) information about Missouri students' performance on the item (as well as other states and the nation); 3) the content area of knowledge that the question is assessing; 4) the scoring guide/key used in judging student responses; 5) sample student responses at each score level (anchor papers); and 6) additional data that includes how various sub-groups (gender, race/ethnicity, etc.) perform on a question. In addition, the Questions Tool allows users to customize and print a group of questions they select.

NAEP released items may be accessed from the Department NAEP Web page <http://www.dese.mo.gov/divimprove/naep>. In the Resources section, select the Released Questions tab. Select Search Options to begin and use the drop down boxes to make your selections.

You can view and download the NAEP Questions Tool Quick Reference Guide at <http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/naep/NAEPQuestionsToolGuide.pdf>, which may be helpful to you as you access the assessment items. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or I can be of further assistance.

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